

Naming Wilson--He Will Not Be "President-Elect" Until Formalities Are Concluded



E. LIVINGSTON CORNELIUS.
Senate's new Sergeant-at-Arms, who will lead the procession into the House.

BY JOHN ELPRETH WATKINS.

IT may surprise you to learn that Governor Wilson is not yet the President-Elect. The fact is that, technically speaking, the election of Wilson and Marshall is by no means "all over but the shouting" as yet. The voters chose the electors the first Monday in November and the electors voted for President and Vice-President in their respective States the second Monday in January. But even this twice-done balloting has not yet sufficed to clinch the election of the two Governors.

The Progressives and Republicans must yet be given a chance formally to contest the Democratic victory of November, while the electoral vote must yet be counted by Republican and Democratic tellers, and the result must be finally ratified in the presence of the national Senate and House of Representatives on the second Wednesday of February.

This safety valve was put on the engine of the ship of state after the crisis reached in the counting of the electoral votes for Hayes and Tilden by the memorable electoral commission in 1877. So great was the public dissatisfaction with the old law under which that count was made that Congress set about to remedy that statute, which it managed to do in 1877, after a long and bitter struggle. Benjamin Harrison was the first President elected under this new procedure.

Messengers Arriving From States.

Senator Bacon, of Georgia, the President pro tempore of the Senate, is now receiving official messengers bearing sealed envelopes containing certificates setting forth the electoral votes of the States. One messenger is sent by each State's group of electors, and he is generally one of the electors chosen for the purpose and paid a handsome fee for his trouble, also his traveling expenses. A duplicate of the certificate which he bears has been sent by mail directly to the President pro tempore as a precautionary measure. If there has been any formal contest over the choice of electors in any State a certificate showing how this contest has been settled must be forwarded by the Governor, under the seal of his State, to Secretary of State Knox, who must then publish the certificate in some "public newspaper" and send copies of the certificate to the two Houses of Congress.

In a safe in his room at the Capitol President Pro Tempore Bacon has the sealed envelopes bearing the certificates of the electoral votes handed him by the special messengers from the States, also the dispatches received by mail. They have been locked away without their seals being broken or their contents examined.

Down in the carpenter shop of the Capitol an expert cabinetmaker has just completed two handsome boxes, made of the finest mahogany. In these the sealed envelopes bearing the certificates will be locked just prior to the formal count of the votes.

Capitol's Greatest Parade Event.

There will be more fuss and feathers and parade incidental to this official count on the second Wednesday of February than is devised for any other ceremony regularly held at the Capitol. The Senate and House will convene, as usual, at noon, in their respective wings. But at 1 o'clock a messenger will appear in the Senate and announce that the House is ready to receive it.

A procession, headed by the President pro tempore, will immediately be formed, the Senators falling in line two by two. Their leader's escort will consist of, first, a squad of special Capitol policemen, then the sergeant-at-arms, and after him the secretary of the Senate, walking with the President pro tempore, just behind whom will walk the assistant doorkeeper of the Senate, bearing in each hand one of the mahogany cases bearing the electoral votes. Behind this functionary will then proceed the double file of Senators.

This procession will traverse the long stretch of marble floor separating the two wings of the Capitol, and crowds of people will be lined up in Statuary Hall and the rotunda to view the line of distinguished men as it passes. This will be the only part of the ceremony, however, which the general public may witness, for the galleries of the House on that day will be entirely reserved for the official count of the electoral vote is not a joint session in the true sense, but a meeting of the two bodies separately. In the same hall, each maintaining its own organization for the purpose of witnessing the count.

Merriment at Cleveland Count.

The two cases containing the ballots will be placed upon the desk before Senator Bacon and Speaker Clark, the keys being placed before the former, who will open the ceremony by unlocking the boxes. At this stage of the ceremony of counting the electoral vote for Cleveland and Stevenson the absent-mindedness of Vice-President Morton precipitated no little merriment. He extended his hand to take the keys, but was surprised to find that they were not in their place beside the boxes. He raised the papers on his desk and peered beneath them, but vainly, and while the proceedings lagged he grew more and more visibly nervous. Speaker Crisp, seated beside him, joined in the search, looking under various articles, including the inkstand. The clerk and his assistants then took a hand, and soon they were joined by other attaches searching on, about and under the desk. The Vice-President becoming more and more confused and embarrassed.

The boxes were tried, but their lids refused to yield, and it began to look as though Governor Cleveland could get into office only by aid of a jimmy. The 400 and more legislators upon the floor, appreciating the humor of the difficulty, commenced to laugh when the Vice-President began to fumble in his pockets. Evidently searching first those of his trousers, then those of his coat, even going down into the very depths of the cavernous recesses of his coat-tails. Finally, when he ran his fingers into his waistcoat pocket and with a sigh of relief, brought forth the missing keys, senators and representatives alike burst forth in a hearty round of applause.

Senator Bacon will produce from within the boxes forty-six large brown envelopes, each having the name of a separate State. After laying these upon his desk, he will rise, gavel in hand, and address the assemblage in these words:

"This being the day and the hour appointed for opening the certificates and counting the votes of electors for President and Vice-President, the Senate and House of Representatives have met together, pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the United States."

He will then take up the packages in their alphabetical order. He will first break the seal on the envelope from Alabama and hand the certificate within to four tellers seated at the desk below him, two of whom—a Democrat and a Republican—will have been previously selected by each house. The tellers will examine and announce the votes of each State, and the President pro tempore will ask if there are any objections to the statements given.

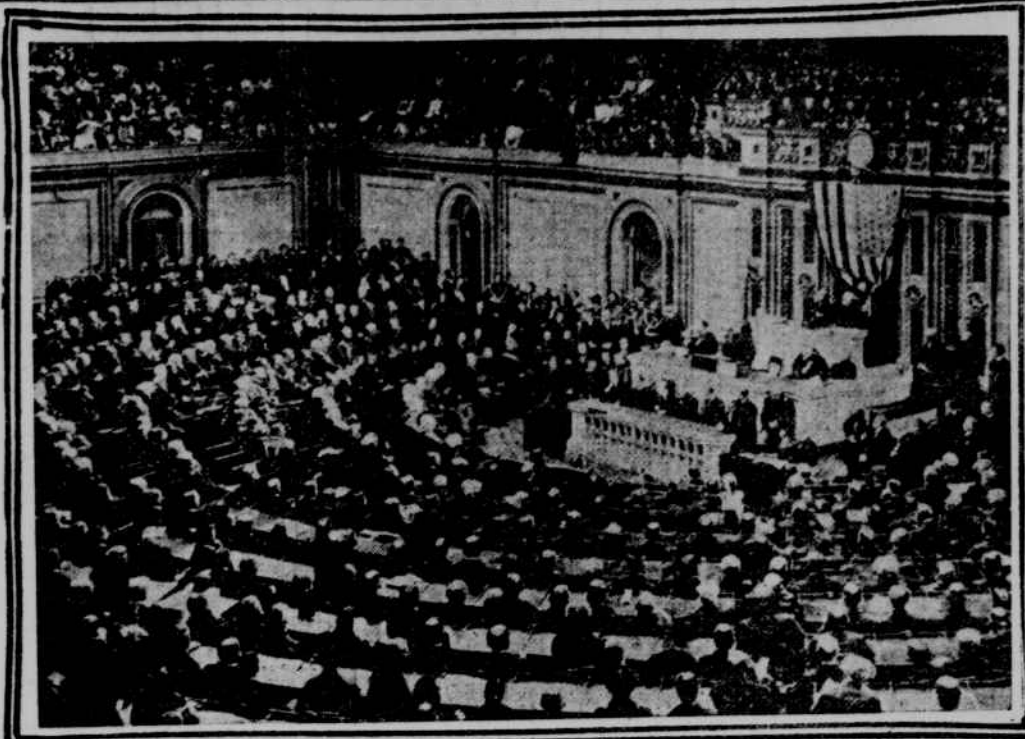
Clinching the Victory.

The votes of all the States having been added by the tellers, the President pro tempore will formally announce the result. There being no contest, Mr. Bacon will make the formal declaration of the election of Wilson and Marshall in these words, which will clinch the victory for the Democrats.

"This announcement of the State of the vote by the President of the United States is by law a sufficient declaration that Woodrow Wilson of the State of New Jersey is elected President of the United States and that Thomas R. Marshall of the State of Indiana is elected Vice-President of the United States, each for the term beginning March 4, 1913, and will be entered, together with a list of the votes, on the journals of the Senate and of the House of Representatives."

The President pro tempore will then accustom the announcement by a whack of his gavel, the galleries will applaud and the Senate will march back to its chamber. Five minutes later each House will have settled down again to its routine of business, the entire ceremony having consumed about an hour and twenty minutes. Mr. Bacon will receive the two handsome mahogany boxes as souvenirs of the ceremony, and if recent precedent is followed, he will present one of them to Mr. Wilson.

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THE LAST ELECTORAL COUNT.



PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE BACON.

TELLS OF LIFE OF BENEI ISRAEL

Member of Detached Sect in India Visits the Jews of the West.

ALLIES OF MOHAMMEDANS

Have Married With Hindus Until Part of Tribal Distinction Is Their Dark Color.

A description of the origin and methods of living of the Beni Israel, a sect of dark Jews, in India, differing physically as well as socially from the great bulk of their coreligionists throughout the world, is given in a current number of The American Hebrew by Moses ben Reuben, the third of their number to travel from India to this country.

There is a tradition among the Jews that the Beni Israelites are the descendants of the survivors of a band of Jews who fled from persecution and were wrecked near the Kenery and Kenery Islands in the Indian Ocean, fifteen miles from the coast, formerly the chief emporium of trade between India and Arabia. Seven men and seven women are said to have been saved from the shipwreck, and from them, in the course of some sixteen or eighteen centuries, the Beni Israel claim descent.

The Beni Israelites avoid the use of the name "Jew" because the Mohammedans of India are greatly prejudiced against the Jewish immigrants from other countries, but they prefer the name Beni Israel chiefly because they are mentioned thus by the Prophet Mohammed in his Al Koran. This partly accounts for the great sympathy and friendship which exists between these two races and the admission of the Beni Israel to the Islamic lodge, the most powerful Mohammedan brotherhood of India. During the Afghan War the Beni Israel held prayer meetings for the victory of the Moslem forces, and many of them lost their lives fighting side by side with their Mohammedan friends.

"The question which now arises," says Moses ben Reuben, "is: In what respect does the Beni Israel differ from the Western Jew? To this I would say that so far as the Jewish religion is concerned, no difference could be established at the present day, as the people are at the height of spiritual enlightenment. The difference lies only in the fact that the Beni Israel are the offspring of marriages between Jews and Hindu women, and, just as the Eurasian descendants of the Por-

tuguese of Goa resemble the natives in the color of the skin, so do the Jewish offsprings of mixed unions resemble the Hindus.

"The Beni-Israel, like the Hindu, has a dark, olive-brown color, black hair, perfect features, dark expansive eyes and a pleasing personality. The Hindus, as Max Muller and Monier Williams admit, are a race of people who are far ahead of other races in mental and moral culture and are given to spiritual introspection and contemplation. Of course reference is made to the first three classes of Hindu civilization, and I believe that in choosing women from these classes for their wives the Jews showed judgment, as the result goes to prove. The offspring of the admixture of these two races are a people who represent the highest qualities of manhood and womanhood.

"The men have inherited a certain fatalism from the Hindus which has made them invincible on the battlefield, and in recognition of this quality the British Government has showered high positions upon the Beni Israel in its military service. And, unlike the Hindus, the Beni Israelites get the same salary, rations, and quarters as Englishmen, and are treated as such. At the present day, there are Beni Israel majors, captains, Risal Dars (leaders of cavalry), magistrates, and surveyors holding positions for the government. The first Sheriff to be appointed for the City of Bombay was David Solomon, a Beni Israel. Besides these, there are clerks in military and civil offices, and the like. Many follow the occupation of builder and carpenter or mason, and some that of farmers in small towns in India. A few have gone into business as import and export firms, especially in Bombay and Poona. There are also a few lawyers in Bombay with good practices. A few of them have adopted the English costume, but a majority still retain the native dress, which consist of shoes, trousers, and a long coat something on the order of the Arabian costume. For headgear they wear a round Persian cap or a Turkish fez with a small tassel. The better class women dress strictly in the Persian costume, wearing only the white cloth wrapped by Persian women around the head. The others wear strictly Hindu clothes. Both the costumes are highly picturesque and very modest.

"The very well-to-do live in a mixture of Oriental and Western style at home; others live like the Hindus, that is, in a more simple manner, without the rich furniture and Oriental carpets that adorn the houses of those better off.

The first foreign Jew to settle in India was Jacob Semah of Baghdad, who settled in Surat. Others followed from Persia and Southern Arabia. The great religious revival among the Beni Israelites was in 1796, when Samuel Diverkar confirmed the Sephardic (Portuguese Jewish) ritual among the Beni Israelites. Even before this revival, however, there was a strict observance of the Sabbath.

the Abrahamic rite, and other Jewish rituals among the people.

"The only animals considered fit for food are fowl, sheep, and goats. The Beni Israel refrain from eating beef, in order not to offend the Hindus. The marriage is always arranged by the parents of the bride and bridegroom, and two ceremonies are held. The first is an exchange of rings between the bride and bridegroom. The second takes place in the synagogue and lasts about three hours. A few intermarriages have taken place between the Beni Israel and the Jew in India, and two were married in London, only one of whom returned to polygamy. Polygamy is practiced, but the percentage is very low.

"In 1753 Samuel Ezekiel Dinckar, a trusted officer of the East India Company, was captured by Tipu Sahib. He prayed for his deliverance, promising to build a synagogue if he escaped. After a miraculous escape, he built the Shinar Harshamin Synagogue of Bombay. I think I know from what I have seen of my people that we are the children of Providence, and have yet a remarkable part to play in the history of England and India. We have the courage of the Jews and the determination and trained concentration of the Hindus, and I see the time when these people will stand forth in the limelight and proudly say: 'We are the sons of Israel, the Chosen People of God.'"

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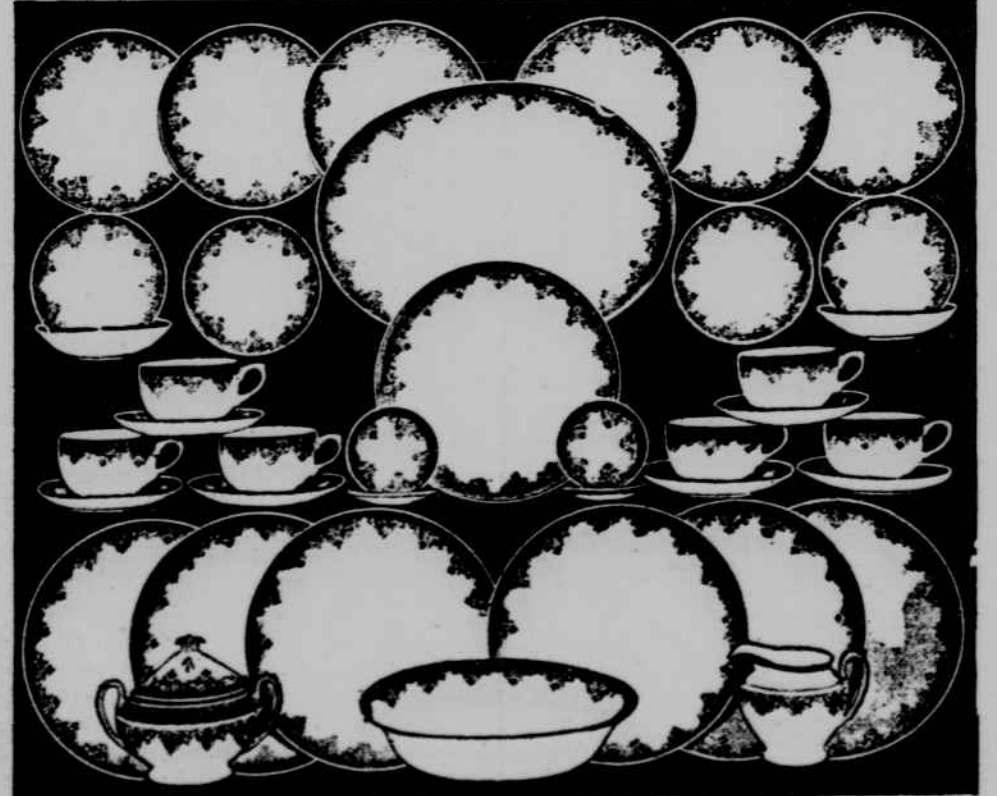
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Leader of Suffragist Parade



MISS INEZ MILHOLLAND.
New York suffragist, who will lead the suffragist parade in Washington, D. C., on March 3.

The President pro tempore will then accustom the announcement by a whack of his gavel, the galleries will applaud and the Senate will march back to its chamber. Five minutes later each House will have settled down again to its routine of business, the entire ceremony having consumed about an hour and twenty minutes. Mr. Bacon will receive the two handsome mahogany boxes as souvenirs of the ceremony, and if recent precedent is followed, he will present one of them to Mr. Wilson.

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